

What is Claimed is:

A method for conveying postal parcels, the method comprising the steps of:

determining whether a postal parcel is intended for an electronic parcel compartment system;

determining whether several postal parcels are to be delivered to the same parcel compartment system;

placing the determined postal parcels into shared transportation containers that are each intended for the same parcel compartment system;

controllably transporting, at least over certain segments and at least partially in tunnel systems, the shared transportation containers to the electronic parcel compartment system by at least one of remote control and a computer program; and,

distributing the postal parcels among different parcel compartments of the electronic parcel compartment system.

The method of claim 0, wherein the shared transportation containers comprise at least one of a barcode, a transponder, and other data carrier that ensure a precise individual routing.

The method of claim 0, wherein the transporting step 0 further comprises transporting postal parcels underground at least over certain segments.

The method of claim 0, further comprising removing postal parcels from the transportation container with an automatically operated conveying device.

The method of claim 0, comprising carrying out the placing step 0 with an automatically operated conveying device.

The method of claim 0, wherein the automatically operated conveying device first removes the postal parcels from the transportation containers and then automatically places them into the appropriate parcel compartment.

The method of claim 0, comprising carrying out the determining steps 0 and 0 with a shipment detection system.

The method of claim 0, further comprising detecting, with a shipment tracking system, the positions and transportation status of the postal parcels at at least one of several places in the transport system and several points in time.

The method of claim 0, further comprising detecting at least one or more of the position and movement of the transportation container carrying the postal parcels.

An apparatus connected to a stopping place of a transport system, the apparatus comprising:

an electronic parcel compartment system;

a device capable of recognizing an identification code on each postal parcel;

and,

a device capable of conveying the postal parcels from the stopping place to the electronic parcel compartment system.

The apparatus of claim 0, wherein the conveying device and electronic parcel compartment system are connected to each other such that the recognition device is operable to recognize the identification code of the parcel conveyed by the conveying device.

The apparatus of claim 0, wherein the conveying device is movably mounted and is capable of conveying postal parcels to different electronic parcel compartments.

The apparatus of claim 0, wherein the postal parcel compartment system comprises at least one compartment, the at least one compartment capable of being moved within the system.